संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष मोहन देव) : (क) 25-10-87 को विचाराधीन आवेदन पत्रों की संख्या 2297 है।

(ख) उपर्युक्त आवेदन पत्रों का वर्ष-वार ब्यौरा निम्न प्रकार है :—

1.	1985 से पहले के लंबित	635
2.	1985 के दौरान	488
3.	1986 के दौरान	604
4.	1987 के दौरान (25-10-87 तक)	570
	योग :	2297

(ग) बारी आने से पहले प्रदान किए गए टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों की संख्या इस प्रकार है :—

1.	1985	52
2.	1986	34
3.	1987	92

संसद सदस्यों को रेलगाड़ियों में मुफ्त यात्रा करने की सुविधा

476. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) ऐसी कौन-कौन सी रेलगाड़ियां हैं जिनमें संसद सदस्य अपने परिचय पत्र के आधार पर मुफ्त यात्रा नहीं कर सकते;

(ख) इन रेलगाड़ियों में संसद सदस्यों को इस सुविधा से वंचित करने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) क्या सरकार इस प्रतिबन्ध को समाप्त करने का विचार रखती है यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री माधवराव सिंधिया) : (क) समय-समय पर यथासंशोधित संसद सदस्य वेतन, भत्ता और पेंशन अधिनियम, 1954 की धारा 6 में निर्धारित पात्रता के अनुसार संसद सदस्य सभी गाड़ियों में अपने पहचान पत्रों के आधार पर मुफ्त यात्रा कर सकते हैं?

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Wharfage Charges at Cochin Fisheries Harbour

477. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that wharfage charges at the Cochin fisheries harbour has been enhanced and if so, to what extent and the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether a Member of Parliament has written a letter to the Minister urging him to convene a meeting of all concerned, if so, the reaction of Government thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT):

(a) The charges levied on users of Fisheries Harbour at Cochin have been revised w.e.f. 1st September, 1987 for a period of 6 months *as* shown below:

	Pre-revised (prior to 1-9-1987) CBS)	Revised (Rs.)
(i) *Berthing and landing charges for day: -*		
Gill net boats	5.00	6.00
	7.50	9.00
Purseine boats	25.00	30.00
Deep Sea trawler	60.00	100.00

	Pre-revisd (prior to 1-9 1987) (Rs)	Revised (Rs,)
(ii) *Licence fee for the month:* -For buying agents	15000	180.00
Class 'A' merchants	50.00	60.00
Small Merchants	15. 00	20.00
Wharfage charges for all type of fish except Per lorry load	*Prawns: -*	50.00
		30.00
Per Auto		10.00
Per hand cart		10.00

The above rate will be doubled in the case of Prawns.

(b) A letter had been received from a Member of Parliament suggesting the convening of a meeting of all parties. The Chairman, Cochin Port is convening a meeting with the users.

Doubling of Railway Tracks

478. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the route Kilometres of the railway track which has been doubled during the last three years in the country;

(b) whether there are any projects now under implementation for doubling the tracks; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) 518 Km.

(b) and (c) Details of approved doubling projects are given in the Railway Budget (Pink Book) 1987-88.

Employment to widows and women In distress

479. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANIC-KER: Will the Minister of' HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre have asked the States to consider special measures for employment of widows and women in aistress; and

(b) what other measures the Central Government are contemplating to raise the status of widows in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) All the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been requested to consider issuing orders on the lines issued by the State Government of Rajas-than enabling widows and women in distress to get employment in Government by allowing appointing authorities to call for their names directly and not through, the employment-exchange and by removing the normal age limit for such employment.

Apart from this, the Department of Women and Child Development is implementing a scheme of assistance for setting up Women's training centres for rehabilitation of Women in Distress since 1977-78. The main objective of the Scheme is to rehabilitate destitute women and their dependent children through vocational training and through residential care with their dependent children, where necessary, so that these women may become economically independent. Vocational Training of short term duration not exceeding one year is organised in non-traditional areas where there is potential for immediate employment. The programme is executed through voluntary organisations. Under the Scheme, assistance is provided on